



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR  
WOMEN**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

**Monday, October 24, 2011**

**10:00 AM**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: President Becerra-Jones, Vice President Tanberg, Commissioner Creary, Commissioner Duba, Commissioner Gallegos, Commissioner Lesser, Commissioner Rodriguez, Commissioner Shevlin and Commissioner Ward

Absent: Commissioner Pinedo

Call to Order by President Becerra-Jones. (11-4721)

**The meeting was called to order by President Becerra-Jones at 10:08 a.m.**

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

1. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of August 8, 2011. (11-3969)

**On motion of Commissioner Tanberg, seconded by Commissioner Shevlin (Commissioner Ward being absent), this item was approved.**

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

2. Discussion and approval to purchase two tickets to the Archdiocesan Youth Employment Services, 17th Annual Alumni & Employer Recognition Awards Dinner & Silent Auction held on September 29, 2011 event from the President's Fund in an amount not to exceed \$200.00. (11-4016)

**This event was attended by President Becerra-Jones and Commissioner Gallegos. During discussion, Commissioner Creary requested clarification on how funds are allocated. President Becerra-Jones stated each District is allowed \$500 per year to attend, an event, conference or retreat within their District. The allocation of the \$500 must agree to by all representatives of that District. There is also \$1500 for District Community event. Additional funding requests must be brought to the attention of the**

**Commission and, if possible, allocated from the President's fund.**

**After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Creary (Commissioner Ward being absent), this item was approved.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 3.**    Approval of a donation of \$1,000 to the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation for event support during the 2011 Health Education Community Project of District 4, "Women's Conference: Mind, Body, Spirit hosted by the Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Center on October 15, 2011. (11-4643)

**Commissioner Tanberg, who attended the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation event gave a brief verbal report and added her full report of the event will be submitted in November.**

**Therefore, on motion of Commissioner Duba, seconded by Commissioner Creary, this item was approved with a report back on November 14, 2011.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 4.**    Discussion and approval to purchase twenty tickets for Women in Pain and Caregivers to the 4th Annual Women in Pain Conference held on September 16, 2011 sponsored by For Grace to be paid from the President's Fund in an amount not to exceed \$200.00. (11-4056)

**Commissioner Duba asked if the items being approved today were already paid. Staff, Rhonda Rangel stated all requests for funds are not allocated until it is approved by the Commission. President Becerra-Jones added the reason why such requests were just now being brought before the Commission was due to the fact there was no September meeting. In the past, all funding requests have been brought before the Commission well in advance of the event. If an item today is not approved, those funds will not be allocated.**

**During discussion, President Becerra-Jones requested the number tickets for the Women in Pain and Caregivers to the 4th Annual Women in Pain Conference held on September 16, 2011 sponsored by For Grace be deleted as long as the donation to be paid from the President's Fund did not to exceed \$200.00.**

Therefore, at the suggestion of President Becerra-Jones and on motion of Commissioner Creary, seconded by Commissioner Shevlin, this item was approved to read: Discussion and approval to donate tickets for Women in Pain and Caregivers to the 4th Annual Women in Pain Conference held on September 16, 2011 sponsored by For Grace to be paid from the President's Fund in an amount not to exceed \$200.00.

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

## **II. PRESENTATIONS**

### **5.    SET ITEM 10:30a.m.**

Presentation from Cindy M. Young, MPH, RD, CLE, Policy Analyst, RENEW LA, Department of Public Health, on the Worksite Lactation Accommodation program. (11-4637)

Cindy Young and Karen Peters gave a brief update on the progress of RENEW LA, a CDC funded obesity prevention grant through the Department of Public Health. The Worksite Lactation Accommodation program within RENEW LA has been working closely with the County of Los Angeles to develop positive health outcomes for new mothers.

The County has taken leadership on adopting the Lactation Accommodation Policy and the Department of Human Resources is now providing training to address working and breastfeeding. Merce Gillo is the contact person within the Department of Human Resources for questions regarding the policy. The next step is to develop a presence within the County website so that all employees can access the information through the internet. Additional Lactation Accommodation training and information was distributed during the meeting.

Genevieve Clavreul addressed the Commission and voiced her concern regarding the storage of milk within the workplace. Both Ms. Young and Ms. Peters responded to questions posed by the Commission and assured the Commission that there is no cause for alarm, as it is perfectly safe to store breast milk within the workplace.

Commissioner Ward requested additional information on the "Open Disclosure" policy for students. President Becerra-Jones requested additional information on the monitoring of this program. Both requests will be researched and a response will be forwarded to the Commission.

**After their presentation, no action was taken by the Commission.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

**6.    SET ITEM 10:45 a.m.**

Presentation from Nirupa Sejpal-Parmar, CORE Director, South Asian Helpline and Referral Agency (SAHARA) on upcoming activities. (11-4642)

**Ms. Sejpal-Parmar presented an overview of SAHARA and responded to questions posed by the Commission. Since 2007 SAHARA now serves over 150 women a year. Major funding for SAHARA comes through grants and community support all free for those women in need. Additional brochures were provided to Commissioners for reference.**

**Commissioner Duba thanked SAHARA for their presentation and applauded their website information on their youth programs.**

**The Commission was invited to attend their annual fund raiser to be held November 12, 2011 at the Wilshire Grand. Registration information was also provided to all Commission members.**

**III. REPORTS**

**7.    Monthly President's Report and update by President Becerra-Jones on the Fit to a T Education and Outreach program. (11-4054)**

**President Becerra-Jones presented her verbal report on the Fit to a T Education and Outreach Program and other outreach programs available to the Commission. The Commission is also invited to attend the 36th Annual Consumer Affairs Conference at no cost. A flyer was distributed to all Commissioners and encouraged them to attend. In order to reach more constituents, Commissioners were encouraged to disseminate information using all avenues.**

**President Becerra-Jones emphasized the difficulties the Commission has had in scheduling meetings due to vacancies within each District. Commissioner Lesser and Ward made a suggestion to revisit the County Ordinance to see about amending the requirements for Commissions on the definition of a quorum be based on the number of seats appointed. Ms. Rangel stated this was an issue that has been visited before and there is a County Counsel opinion on the matter.**

Commissioner Tanberg requested when the information is brought before County Counsel, that there be an emphasis on the number of vacancies, the length of time there has been a vacancy, and the cancelled meetings due to a lack of a quorum or meetings without a quorum. There needs to be an emphasis on the burden that the Commission and its members have when there are seats that are vacant as well as seats that are being occupied by Commissioners that have not attended meetings for an extended length of time.

Commissioner Creary stated the 2nd District is working on filling the vacancies for their District.

Genevieve Clavreul stated she did not receive notification of the last special meeting. Staff will research her comment to assure all notifications are properly posted/distributed.

Rebekah Kim introduced herself as the new Fourth District Deputy liaison replacing Gail Tierney over the Commission for Women.

After Discussion, Commissioners Creary, Ward, Shevlin and Rodriguez agreed to again speak with their District regarding the vacancies and report back at a future meeting. Both Commissioner Tanberg and Lesser have already spoken to their District and are awaiting response.

Commissioners were reminded there is a Commission meeting November 14, 2011.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

8. Monthly Treasurer's Report as submitted. (Continued from the meeting of August 8, 2011.) (11-3551)

Ms. Rangel submitted the Treasurer's report. Two items originally placed as budgeted items were removed and placed under the Scholarship fund. They were for the \$5000 donation and the \$9150.70 earmarked from the luncheon.

After discussion, the report was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

9. Report back from Commissioners on letter to the Board of Supervisors, of Commission deferral of the 2011 Run/Walk event to 2012 and request for donation; and discussion on how the funds would be disbursed for each District as requested by Commissioner Creary at the meeting of August 8, 2011. (11-3221)

**Ms. Rangel reported, so far the 2nd District and 4th District have agreed to make a donation of \$5000 to the Scholarship Fund.**

**Commissioners Gallegos and Shevlin agreed to speak with their Supervisor regarding this letter. President Becerra-Jones has spoken with Louisa Ollague. She will follow-up with Supervisor Molina and report back at the meeting of November 2011.**

10. Report by Commission Ruth Creary on "Inspiring Women Night," held at the Staples Center August 26, 2011. (11-3966)

**Commissioner Creary presented a verbal report. There were almost 90 friends and family members of the Commission attend the event. Farmers Insurance was extremely gracious.**

11. Report from Commissioner Lesser on the 2nd Annual Women and Health Reform Dialogue held on September 1, 2011. (11-4036)

**Commissioner Lesser provided an overview of her report and highlighted the "Affordable Care Act." The purpose of this is to provide prevention services that will benefit patients before they come to a critical medical need. Dr. Michael Katz, new Director of the Department of Health Services is working in the clinics and the hospitals in the County to put the concept of "Patient Care First." The Department is working to see patients in a more timely manner. There is an area within <http://Healthcare.gov> under the Bridge to Health Care where people can be enrolled in to a system once the Affordable Care Act goes in to effect.**

**President Becerra-Jones requested Commissioner Lesser report back on any developments regarding the "Affordable Care Act."**

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

12. Report from the Women of the Year Ad-Hoc Committee. (11-4053)

**Commissioner Gallegos thanked those Committee members who attended the teleconference meeting.**



The letter for the event and call for nominees will be going out this week. The deadline for nominations is December 5, 2011. The Biltmore Hotel has been removed from the letter. Staff will be contacting the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and other locations for possible quotes. Commissioner Shevlin suggested the theme be "Honoring Women, Who Honor Us All." The Committee is looking in to adding "Title Sponsor" as a category for major funders. Commission members were asked to provide contact information to staff for follow-up on sponsorship.

Commissioner Creary stated, the date on page one of the Nomination Application needs to be corrected to reflect the deadline date of December 5, 2011. Staff will make the correction on the application.

Commissioner Gallegos and President Becerra-Jones stressed the Commissioners reiterate the deadline date to the Supervisors. Ms. Rangel will contact the Committee members to schedule the next Committee meeting.

#### **IV. DISCUSSION**

13. Discussion on recent Treasurer vacancy of the Commission for Women. (11-3964)

President Becerra-Jones discussed the recent vacancy of the Treasurer position. Commissioner Duba was asked if she was interested, however, she declined the offer as she has other obligations that need her attention. Having no volunteers, the position will be left vacant until such time a member of the Commission is willing to assume the position.

#### **V. MISCELLANEOUS**

14. Announcements by Commissioners on upcoming events. (11-4641)

Commissioner Shevlin showed a coin that says "ASK". This coin was made when she was first appointed to the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce. All you have to do is ask and doors can open.

Commissioner Lesser announced the Office of Women's Health is continuing its series regarding older women and on November 16, 2011 there will be a seminar that will focus on mental health. We are hoping at least one member of the Commission will be able to attend. Applications have been distributed to Commissioners.

Commissioner Lesser suggested the 4th District Community be in scheduled in place as one of the regular Commission meeting. She will speak with Rebekah Kim and present her proposal at a later date.

Commissioner Creary thanked Commissioners Ward and Gallegos for attending the Susan B. Komen, Circle of Promise Kick-off event. They were interviewed as part of their campaign on Breast Cancer Awareness. She provided umbrellas for each Commissioner from the event.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT\\_Outreach Report by Creary](#)

#### **Matters Not Posted**

15. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Committee, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

- 15A. Recommendation as submitted by Commissioner Creary: Presentation by Dr. Mary M. Fallie on "Building Successful Transitions," a program for individuals leaving the Foster Care System within Los Angeles County. (11-3727)

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
[SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 15B. Recommendation as submitted by Commissioner Duba: Approval of Minutes from the meeting of October 3, 2011. (11-4741)

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 15C. Recommendation as submitted by Commissioner Creary: Discussion and Approval of cost to send one Commissioner to attend the Millennium Momentum Foundation, Inc., 8th Annual *Opening Doors Awards* Ceremony and Benefit Dinner in the amount not to exceed \$250 from the 2nd District Community Project fund. (11-3968)

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 15D. Recommendation as submitted by President Becerra-Jones: Approval of October and November meeting dates on the 2012 Commission for Women Calendar. (11-4733)

#### **Public Comment**

16. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (11-3715)



**Genevieve Clavreul and Antonia Routt addressed the Commission.**

**Adjournment**

17. Adjournment for the meeting of October 19, 2011. (11-3927)

**The meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.**

DRAFT